

Regional Plan Association

Connecticut General Assembly
Transportation Committee

March 5, 2010

Dear Senator DeFronzo and Representative Guerrero:

I write this letter in support of two bills currently under consideration by the Transportation Committee. Please share this letter with your fellow members.

The first bill, Raised House Bill no. 5386, An Act Concerning the Safety of Pedestrians and Cyclists and the Promotion of Healthy Communities, would require 10% of three pools of flexible federal transportation dollars to be spent on projects that enhance pedestrian, cycling, and transit infrastructure. While Connecticut has made strides in supporting alternative mobility infrastructure, decades of planning our transportation network for the exclusive benefit of automobiles has left widespread deficiencies in the pedestrian network which connects residents to local jobs and services and transit opportunities. A competitive grant program to municipalities for infrastructure improvements will allow project prioritization at the local level and improvements to be made quickly and effectively to improve the safety and mobility of pedestrians in Connecticut communities. This bill would act in tandem with last year's passage of a Complete Streets bill which requires state road projects to incorporate pedestrian facilities.

We also wish to express support for Raised Senate Bill 345, An Act Authorizing Municipalities to Conduct a Pilot Program for the Use of Automated Traffic Control Signal Enforcement Devices at Certain Intersections. The use of red light cameras will protect the safety of vehicle occupants and pedestrians at intersections and this pilot program will enable the local operational knowledge necessary for widespread implementation of camera enforcement of traffic lights.

Sincerely,



David Kooris
Vice President